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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/990,204

11/21/2001

Ken Kuwabara

JNP-0126

3547

26615

7590

04/04/2006

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EXAMINER

LEE, ANDREW CHUNG CHEUNG

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2616

DATE MAILED: 04/04/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/990,204

Applicant(s)

KUWABARA ET AL.

Examiner

Andrew C. Lee

Art Unit

2664

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 February 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4,5,10-12 and 17-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) 10,11,12,17,18,19,20 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4 and 5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Amendment***

1. Applicant's request for reconsideration of the finality of the rejection of the last Office action is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of that action is withdrawn.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claim 1, 4, 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Aggarwal et al. (US 6330614 B1).

Regarding claim 1, Aggarwal et al. disclose the limitation of in a router containing a plurality of forwarding tables (column 4, lines 60 – 65, routing table and forwarding table), a method of packet forwarding, comprising: receiving a packet at an ingress interface (column 4, lines 66 – 67, interpreted “router gets a datagram from a directly connected interface” as receiving a packet at an ingress interface); classifying the received packet based on at least a first field value contained in the header of the packet (column 5, line 1, interpreted “examining the destination network address in the header” as received packet based on at least a first field value (destination network address)), the classifying comprising; determining whether the first field value meets one or more criteria (column 6, lines 50 – 55, interpreted “ verifying the integrity of the incoming datagram header” as first field value meets one or more criteria), and assigning a

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default classification if none of the criteria are met (column 6, lines 13 – 17, interpreted “ hop count and destination network address” as a default classification) ; associating one of the plurality of forwarding tables to the packet according to its classification (column 5, lines 55 – 62, interpreted “the destination network address and egress interface number form an entry into the forwarding table as associating one of the plurality of forwarding tables); performing a lookup operation in the associated forwarding table according to at least a second field value contained in the header of the packet (column 5, lines 5 – 8, lines 57 – 62 , interpreted “calculates the egress interface number” as associated forwarding table according to at least a second field value); determining an egress interface based on the lookup operation (column 5, lines 57 – 62, interpreted “calculates the egress interface number” as determining an egress interface based on the lookup operation); and transmitting the received packet from the determined egress interface (column 6, lines 11 – 19, interpreted “ choosing the interface to port 1 (determined egress interface) for forwarding of all datagrams destined for network address ‘a’).

Regarding claim 4, Aggarwal et al. disclose the limitation of the method of claim 1, wherein a first forwarding table contains an entry corresponding to a first label switched path (column 8, Table 2, entry 1 element a Label assigned L1).

Regarding claim 5, Aggarwal et al. disclose the limitation of the method of claim 4, wherein the first forwarding table contains an entry corresponding to a second label switched path (column 8, Table 2, entry 3 element c Label assigned L2).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

4. Claims 10, 17 are allowed.

Prior art of record does not disclose, in single or in combination, the limitations of programming the filter to initiate a lookup operation in the second forwarding table if the first field value does not meet one or more conditions of the first set of conditions in combination with other limitations of claims.

Additionally, all of the further limitations in claims 11, 12, 18, 19, 20 are allowable since the claims are dependent upon the independent claims.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

***Response to Arguments***

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 19, 20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

***Conclusion***

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrew C. Lee whose telephone number is (571) 272-3131. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30am - 5:00pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ricky Ngo can be reached on (571) 272-3139. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

ACL

March 31, 2006



RICKY Q. NGO  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER